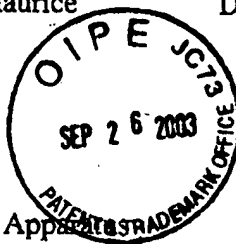


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: ARMSTRONG, Gordon Maurice Docket No.: 4407-3
U.S. Serial Number: 09/714,262,
Filed: November 17, 2000
Title: Woodworking Method and Apparatus
Group Art Unit: 3723 Examiner: ROSE, Robert A.



Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Box DAC
Washington, D.C.
20231

Dear Sir:

May 26, 2003

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2003, which Action was made FINAL, and to the follow-up Advisory Action

The Examiner is requested to review the following comments.

Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2002, the Applicant has undertaken the following actions. First, the Applicant confirms the previous appointment of Marks & Clerk as Agents of Record for this application. A "Power of Attorney or Authorization of Agent" in favour of the undersigned (Client No. 23477) was previously submitted, and the Office is requested to update their records

Second, the Applicant respectfully requests a three month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action. A "Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a)" form is attached together with authorization for payment of the appropriate fee.

Third, the Applicant has amended the application and has re-filed the application as a

Continuation-In-Part application. In preparing the re-filed application, the Applicant has provided additional details of the manufacturing tolerances for production of the tool, which tolerances are not immediately apparent from the appearance of the tool, but which are now believed critical in the proper functioning of the tool.

As part of the CIP application, the claims have been amended to clearly state the tolerance figures in term of run-out of the tool and optionally, the bearing surfaces. As such, it is believed that the claims are not obvious in light of the prior art of record, and in particular, European patent application No. EP 035939-A1.

Accordingly, the Applicant contends that the present application is both novel and inventive over the cited prior art, and that the claims as presently amended are now in condition for allowance. As such, favourable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MARKS & CLERK



Per: **Gerald A. Gowan**
Registered Patent & Trade-Mark Agent
US Registration No. 37,041 / US Client No. 23477
email: ggowan@to.markclerk.com

Marks & Clerk (Toronto)
350 Burnhamthorpe Road West
Suite # 402
Mississauga, Ontario
CANADA L5B 3J1
T: 905-272-2252
F: 905-272-2557

GAG:tim
encls:

GOWAN, Gerald A. 37,041

HEWSON, Donald E.22,241